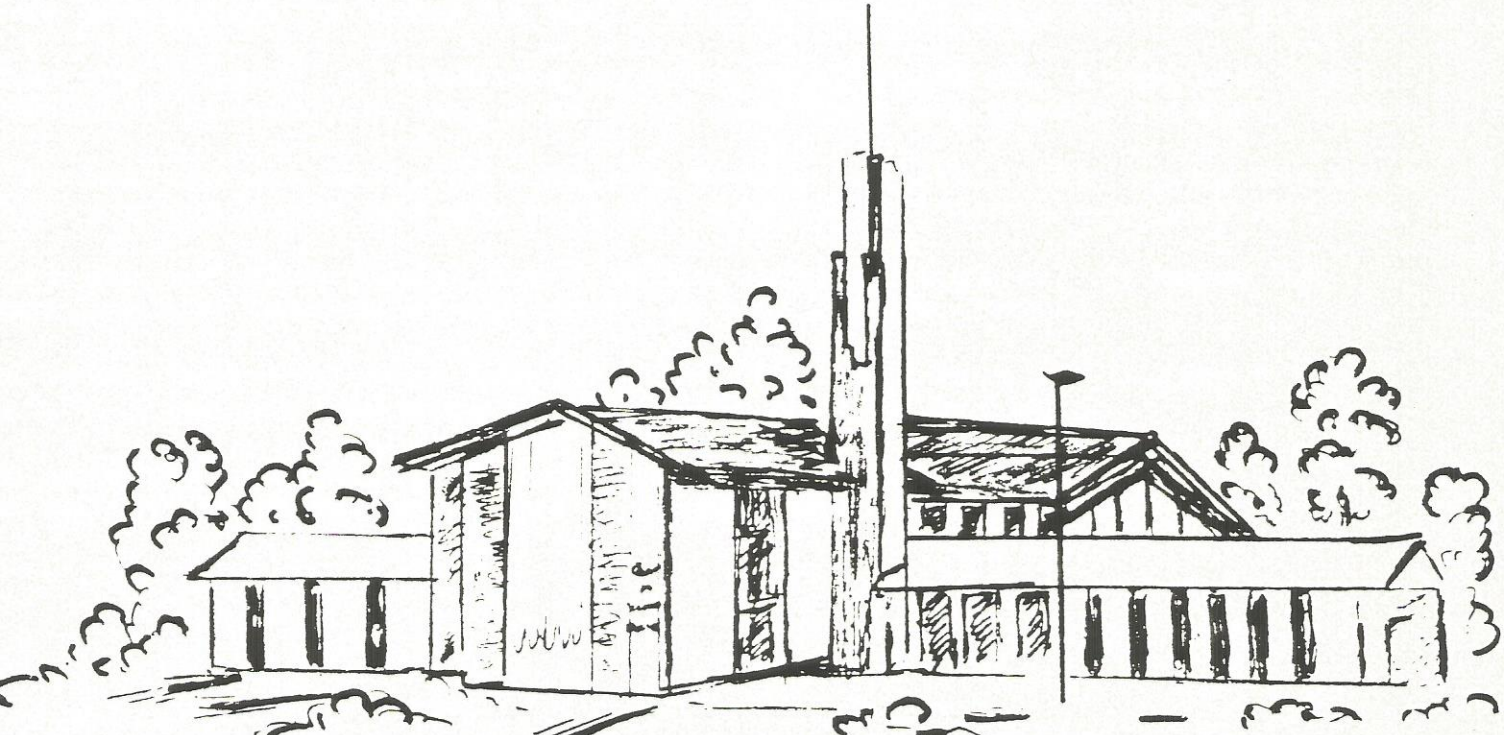
FIRST CHURCH HOUSE 1915

PAUL FIRST WARD
75th ANNIVERSARY



PRESENT CHURCH HOUSE 1990

Cover by Madena Wilson

A TRIBUTE TO BISHOPS OF PAUL FIRST WARD - 1990

The year was 1915. All the saints were gathered there.
Anxiety and guessing and hoping filled the air.

They organized a little ward, Paul 1st Ward was its name.
They had to have a bishop, a man of worth, not fame.

A man sincere and honest. "Honor" was his word.
His name was not on ballot. He was chosen by the Lord.

Down through the years 12 bishops, have graced this church's stand.
They've been the choicest bishops, known throughout the land.

Peter Johnson, Alma Wayment then Davis Green was number three.
Then came two Merrills and one Maxwell, that's six you will agree.

There was Bailey, Harper and Bennett, these add up to number nine.
Then Hansen, Merrill and Williams. Who will be next in line?

Bishops come in many sizes and shapes of every sort,
The are stout or slim, or in between and they're tall or maybe short.

They may be doctors, bankers, merchants or tillers of the land,
Maybe engineers or cowboys, teachers or house builders in this sand.

No matter how they earn a living for themselves and family too,
They are always faithful in their tithes and all else they're called to do.

They are prudent, trusted and so nice, they stand for truth and right,
They will counsel you and pray with you, they are humble in their might.

They are men who work for wife and family and still they serve the Lord,
They are dedicated men who want to teach us all God's everlasting word.

They are our confidants, our friends, they want us all to happy be,
They are the fathers of our ward, we are one big family.

We thank twelve bishops here tonight for their love and patience too,
We are a forward pressing ward for all they've had us do.

We hope that we will grow in faith and charity and care,
So we will be together in God's kingdom when we're there.

by Reda H. Eames

BISHOPS OF PAUL 1st WARD

9/1915 to 1917	Peter E. Johnson
1917 to 1/1921	Alma Wayment
1/1921 to 9/1937	Davis Green
9/1937 to 2/1955	Keith C. Merrill, Sr.
2/1955 to 4/1961	Lee W. Merrill
4/1961 to 2/1968	Jay S. Maxwell
2/1968 to 1/1974	Arthur Bailey
1/1974 to 6/1979	Larry F. Harper
6/1979 to 1/1982	DeLyle Bennett
1/1982 to 8/1982	M. Gene Hansen
8/1982 to 2/1988	Jay W. Merrill
2/1988 to	Richard G. Williams

HISTORY OF THE PAUL 1st WARD

The first branch of the Church on the Minidoka Project was organized at Heyburn, September 10, 1905, with George E. Hellewell as Branch President. The branch was then a part of Cassia Stake with headquarters at Oakley, Idaho.

Up to 1913, members of the Church as far away as Boise to the Oregon border were part of the Cassia Stake, so the general authorities organized a stake in Boise, with the Snake River as dividing line. That caused a hardship on the people of the project because they would have to travel to Boise, which was stake headquarters.

While Paul people were still members of the Heyburn Ward, a special meeting was called by Bishop Hellewell of members of the ward residing in the northwest part of Minidoka Project. Some of them had to travel a distance of nine to ten miles and more to Heyburn for church meetings.

In January, 1915, under the supervision of Peter E. Johnson, the building was started. He got the deed for the land and the men donated their time and labor to build the building.

The building was completed, paid for and was dedicated September 21, 1915, by Apostle Francis M. Lyman. Elder Lyman stated at the time that this was the first time in his 35 years of service to the church that he had organized a ward and dedicated a church at the same time. Members later learned that it was the first time in church history this had happened.

Bro. Johnson was the first bishop of the Paul Ward, with Alma Wayment and Frank Manning as counselors. In 1917 Bishop Johnson moved to Weiser, Idaho and Alma Wayment was sustained as bishop with FRank Manning and Cyrus G. Sanford as counselors.

On August 19, 1919, the Boise Stake was divided and the Blaine Stake was organized with headquarters in Carey, Idaho. That made it closer for the members to travel. Just a week previous, the Cassia Stake was divided and the Burley and Twin Falls Stakes were organized.

In 1921 Bishop Wayment was released and Davis Green. who was on a mission with his wife, was called home and sustained as Bishop, with Cyrus G. Sanford and John H. Widdison as counselors. Bro. Widdison was later replaced by Bro. Leslie T. Harper.

On May 11, 1924, at the new Wilson Theater, the Minidoka Stake was organized with Richard C. May as President and Joseph P. Payne as 1st counselor and Herman P. Fails as 2nd counselor and Alvin Jensen as Stake Clerk. The new stake comprised the Rupert Wards, Acequia, Heyburn, Paul, Emerson, Eden and Hazelton wards.

On September 21, 1937, Bishop Green was called to serve as a counselor in the stake presidency and Keith C. Merrill, Sr. was called as Bishop. His counselors were Cyrus G. Sanford and Robert Hellewell, who later were replaced by Veral Loveland and Harper Hunsaker.

Paul Ward continued to grow in membership until it was necessary to remodel and enlarge the building. A building fund was started, and by contributions, bazaars and auction sales, the new work was started i;n October of 1951. It was a cold winter, but the men persevered and worked every day. Eleven months later, on September 21, 1952, the beautiful new chapel was dedicated. The dedicatory prayer was given by Joseph Fielding Smith, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

Also during the term of Bishop Keith Merrill, 80 acres of land was purchased 4 miles west of Paul. This was used as a welfare farm for the Paul Ward and took care of most of the operating budget of the ward. The farm was sold in 1960 when the stake welfare farm was purchased Northeast of town.

Bishop Keith Merrill was released on February 13, 1955 and his son, Lee W. Merrill was sustained as bishop with Blaine Harper and Gordon Stolworthy as counselors. Bro. Stolworthy was later released and replaced by John Terry.

On April 30, 1961, Bishop Lee Merrill was released and Jay S. Maxwell was sustained as bishop with Reed Crystal and Richard Finlinson as counselors.

During this time the Northside Project was opened up and because of the many people who moved into the area, many of them LDS, it became necessary to organize a new ward. On February 18, 1962, the Paul Second Ward was organized. Bishop Maxwell remained as bishop of Paul First Ward and Bro. Finlinson was sustained as bishop of Paul Second Ward. Bishop Maxwell's new counselors were Louis Stimpson and Lenn Garner. Bro. Stimpson was released in June 1967 and Arthur Bailey was sustained as 2nd counselor. Many of the new members who came into the Paul First Ward at the time of the change were those living between Paul and Heyburn.

Bishop Maxwell was released and Bro. Bailey sustained as bishop in February 1968 with Larry Harper and Gary Ward as counselors. Bro. Ward moved from the area in July 1968 and Ernest Straubhaar was sustained as 2nd counselor. In October of 1970 he was released and Donald Handy named 2nd counselor.

On December 9, 1970, Paul and Paul Second Ward bishoprics met to discuss the building program. It was decided to go for a new church house with a kickoff date of Jan 17, 1971.

On November 1, 1971 A ward "day of Fasting and Prayer" was observed to ask for improvement in the weather so the harvest could be completed. The weather of the past few days stopped the beet harvest and brought four inches of snow to the area. There were no ward meetings held December 12, 1971 because of blizzard conditions. This has been one of the windiest years and the coldest weather. A report of December 31, 1971 showed many ward members down with the flu.

On September 24, 1972, Minidoka Stake was divided to form the new Minidoka West Stake with Elder Ezra Taft Benson of the Council of the Twelve officiating. Garth Eames was sustained as President of Minidoka Stake with LaMar Nef and Leigh Ingersoll as counselors. Keith C. Merrill, Jr. was sustained as President of Minidoka West Stake with Jay S. Maxwell and Harold R. Hurst as counselors. Two Heyburn wards, Emerson ward and the two Paul wards made up the Minidoka West Stake while the original Minidoka Stake kept the two Acequia wards and the Rupert wards.

In his talk after being sustained as President of the new stake, Pres. Keith Merrill stated that the ground west of Paul that had been designated as the spot for the new Paul 1st and Paul 2nd Wards' building would now become the spot for a Stake House. With this statement, a massive building fund project was launched. The stake would have to have its share of the estimated cost of $916,000 into Salt Lake City before any other work could be done towards getting the building built.

This was accomplished much faster than expected, and on June 18, 1973, the final payment of the stake's share was turned into the Church offices in Salt Lake. Bids were let later in the summer, and on November 3, 1973, ground breaking ceremonies were held.

Bishop Bailey was released on January 20, 1974 and Larry Harper was sustained as Bishop of the Paul First Ward with Donald Handy and Devere Burton as counselors.

The energy crises was felt by citizens that winter and on January 20, 1974, the two Paul wards set up a new meeting schedule that would use as little traveling and fuel as possible.

On February 17, 1974, the Church changed the way stake names were designated, and on that day the Minidoka West Stake was officially changed to the Paul Idaho Stake.

Open house for the new Stake Center and ward building, located at 424 West Ellis on Highway 25, was held on June 15, 1975. A special stake meeting of all members was held and Pres. Keith Merrill, Jr. spoke and announced the realignment of the ward boundaries. Two new wards and bishoprics were added. Emerson Second and Paul Third. Emerson Second would share the building with Emerson First and Paul Third would continue to use the Paul 1st and 2nd building. Paul First and Paul Second wards

would occupy the new stake center. The building was dedicated by M. Taylor Abegg, Regional Representative.

On June 10, 1979 Bishop Harper was released and DeLyle Bennett sustained as Bishop with Dee Ray Wheeler and Lenn Garner as counselors.

In March 1980 the block program was announced, where all Sunday meetings are held in a 3 hour period, together. Relief Society, Primary and Young Women meetings all changed from weekdays to Sunday. Only activities were held during the week.

On December 27, 1981, the ward boundaries were realigned again. The Heyburn 3rd Ward was created and would share the Heyburn building with the Heyburn First and Heyburn Second wards. Bishop Bennett was released as Bishop of Paul First Ward and sustained as bishop of Paul Third Ward. That bishop was released and sustained as bishop of the new Heyburn 3rd Ward. Bishop Gene Hansen was released as bishop of the Emerson First Ward and sustained as bishop of the Paul First Ward. His counselors were Dee Ray Wheeler and Leonard S. Peterson.

Many Paul First Ward members who had lived in the ward for many years, found themselves in a new ward. The boundary between Paul 1st and Paul 3rd wards was 600 West road, and all those living east of this road were in the Paul 3rd Ward. The boundary ran from the railroad tracks in Paul, south to the Snake River.

In June 1982 the Paul Idaho Stake presidency was changed, with John A. Stevenson president, Clyde Harper as 1st counselor and M. Gene Hansen as 2nd counselor. This meant a new bishop would have to be called for the Paul First ward. Meanwhile, Bishop Hansen served as bishop of the ward and as a counselor in the stake presidency until approval for the new bishop was received from Church headquarters. A period of about six weeks.

On August 8, 1982 Bishop Hansen was released and Bro. Jay W. Merrill was sustained as Bishop, following in the footsteps of his father and brother as bishops of the Paul 1st Ward. Bishop Merrill's counselors were Leonard Peterson and Michael Barclay. They were later released and Nolan Thompson and Dennis Orton were sustained as counselors.

In June 1984, the Rupert and Paul Stakes were realigned to form the Rupert West Stake. Paul Stake lost the Heyburn 1st and Heyburn 2nd wards to the new stake. Because Heyburn 3rd Ward members would be attended a different building, the name of the ward was changed to Paul Fourth Ward.

Because the old Paul Ward building in the center of town was getting too small for two wards and because it was very old and needed extensive repairs, a new building project was undertaken in the stake. To build a new two ward building to be used for the Paul 3rd and 4th wards. The new building would be located at

the intersection of 300 South and 500 West in Minidoka county. While this building was being built, the Paul 4th Ward shared the stake center with the Paul 1st and 2nd wards. Overlapping meeting schedules were used to get church completed before too late in the evening and yet not have to start too early in the mornings.

In March 1985 the ward boundaries were realigned again and members living on the east side of Paul were back in the Paul First Ward. Those from Paul 1st living near the Snake River were sent to either Paul 3rd or Paul 4th Wards. No new wards were created at this realignment but a more equitable distribution of priesthood holders was achieved.

On February 14, 1988 Bishop Merrill was released and Bro. Richard Williams was sustained as Bishop. His counselors were William G. Neibaur and Randy Munk. Bro. Munk moved to American Falls in June of that year and Bro. Randy Jones was sustained as 2nd counselor.

In January 1990 news came from Church headquarters that members would no longer donate to the ward budget. Budget money would be sent to the wards from the Church from the tithing funds, and would be based on Sacrament meeting attendance in each ward for each quarter.

Information taken from Paul Stake Conference booklet, October 26, 1975 and from bishops.

BISHOP PETER E. JOHNSON

We got to Paul in 1911. We had already bought the place, so we just moved right in. We lived in this sheep wagon for a few months because the fellow who owned the house had not moved out yet. When he moved away, we moved into the house. It was a basement house, and we stayed in it all that winter. It was nice and warm--lots of room. Then I bought another building and moved it there for a dwelling house.

While we were there, I was put in as Bishop's Counselor of the Heyburn Ward. In 1915 decided there was enough members to build a church in Paul. It was a nice white brick church. They did not tell the church authorities they were going to build, and we did not notify the stake president they were going to build. we just got a group of fellows together, and said, "Let's build a church right there." So I talked to the man who owned the land and asked him what he would take for an acre of ground down on that corner. He asked what we were going to do with it, and I said we were going to build and LDS Church. He said, "If you build a $5,000 church, I will give you that acre of ground." I said, "You go ahead and get the deed." So he went to Rupert the next day and brought the deed back to me. We went to work on that church.

It was a pretty rough bunch. They could cuss and swear as long and as loud as any men I knew. We got the church built, and we lacked some of the work on the interior, so I sent a sketch of the whole thing to President Hale at Boise and told him we had to have $1500 to finish that building. He did not even know we were building it. So he sent the letter down to Salt Lake City, and in a few days I got a letter from Bishop Nibley, Presiding Bishop. In the letter was a check for $1500, and along with it a note that said, "Don't ask for any more; you will never get it."

But that was enough. We finished the church and had it dedicated on September 21, 1915. President Herber Q. Hale, William Rossen, First Counselor in the Stake Presidency, and Francis M. Lyman, a Member of the Quorum of the Twelve came to the conference, and President Lyman dedicated the church.

After it was dedicated they came down to our place. I was lying there sick. I had appendicitis. I was going to the hospital the next morning. They came in the house and said they had called me to be the Bishop of this ward. They laid their hands upon my head and told me I would get well and ordained me a Bishop. The next day I went to the hospital in Burley, and while the operation was going on, those three men stood over me with their hands stretched out right over me, and I could see them just as plain as if I were talking to them. So I had no feeling of doubt about getting well. I was in the hospital thirteen days, and then I came back home.

His Counselors were Alma Wayment and Frank Manning.

We live in Paul several years, and then we decided we would move down the river further and bought a place down at Weiser. We got our first automobile in Paul, and that is what we drove down to Weiser.

From Weiser they moved to Salt Lake. From there they moved to Nampa.

On December 7, 1924 was ordained Bishop of the Nampa First Ward.

On March 14, 1926 was ordained Bishop of the Nampa Second Ward.

On November 27, 1938 was ordained President of the Nampa Stake.

Elected Mayor of Nampa, Idaho 1947-1951.

Died April 10, 1966, Nampa, Idaho Age 89.

(Information taken from the book" Life History of Peter E. Johnson")

The Alma Wayment family came to Paul in 1915. Alma came in March and brought some livestock, and his wife and three children followed at the conclusion of the school year. They settled in a small four room house. Alma having rented 80 acres from a Mr. Imes 3 1/2 miles South and West of Paul.

The family went to Heyburn to church for several months before and while the Paul church was being built. Byron and his sister Fern, remember the church members; Corless, Mannings, Sanfords, Greenwells, Tanners and Fowles all helping to dig the basement of the new church. Men, women, and children also participated. Much of the work was done by hand. They just had one large room above the basement and a heating stove in the middle of the large upstairs room. Byron rmembers helping nailing down the flooring in this large upstairs room.

Their social life was dances and box suppers - where a lady prepared a supper and put it into a decorated box. It was then sold at auction to the highest bidder. Some of the young women went to great pains to prepare a beautiful box - it helped to bring a high price. The funds derived from this was used for various purposes and they were a popular form of entertainment.

Ice cream socials were also popular - home made of course, and the young men and old loved to have a heaping dish, along with home made cookies.

Alma Wayment helped organize the Paul Ward in 1915 and was a member of the first Bishopric and served as first counselor to Bishop Peter Johnson. The second counselor was Frank Manning.

Alma was made Bishop of the Paul Ward, November 1, 1917, and served in that capacity until 1924. In 1918, a flu epidemic swept through the country and many people became ill. Bishop Wayment and his wife worked tirelessly among the sick and dying - taking soup and other foods to the sick in the community. As there was no mortuary, it became their chore to help with preparations for burial, etc.

The mode of transportation in 1915 - 1918 was a white topped buggy and a single horse buggy. They purchased a car in 1918, so that helped to get about better.

They belonged to the Boise stake - some stake meetings were held at Oakley and Carey.

Alma was one of the organizers of the Paul Cemetery district and the first burial was under his direction.

He moved back to Slaterville, Utah in 1929 and his wife died in 1930.

He married Annie Jensen in 1935.

He raised 6 of 8 Children.

He came back to Burley when he was 75. He lived in a small trailer next to his Son, Byron's house. He took care of the garden and the calves. Byron milked cows at that time.

You could have anything out of his immaculate garden but you didn't dare leave the vegetable tops there.

He also insisted that the hay for the calves be stacked just right and if it wasn't it was restacked.

He died on Sunday December 1, 1963.

Bishop Davis Green

In 1910, Paul members belonged to the Heyburn Ward, Cassia Stake. In 1915 the Paul Ward was organized. This was done because of the distance they had to travel. The stake president had told them that as soon as they could get a building, they could have their own ward. Jim Ellis, a non-member, donated the property for the building. Through much sacrifice, the members built the chapel just East of this building on the corner. The ward was organized and the building was dedicated on the same day, Sept. 25, 1915.

Peter Johnson was the first Bishop from 1915 to 1917 followed by Alma Wayment from 1917 to 1921. Davis Green served as Bishop from 1921 to 1937.

In 1920 Davis Green and his wife were called to serve a mission to the Northern States. In 1920 he received a letter from the Mission President, Wilsow Farr Smith, telling him he was to be released to return home to be Bishop of the Paul Ward. They started home in December of 1920 and on Jan. 11, 1921, he was sustained Bishop of the Paul Ward where he served until 1937. In 1922 shortly after the birth of Derald, their second son, Hannah Green died of the flu.

In 1923 he married Clarinda Merrill in the Logan Temple. The depression of the late 1920's and early 1930's touched the lives of the Paul Ward members. Many people became discouraged and left the area to return to Utah or wher ever they came from. It was during this time that Stephen L. Richards of the Council of Twelve visited the stake and in going over reports and records concluded the stake was low in spirituality. He suggested that officers and leaders should go on short term missions. Some of the leaders responded to the call. Among those electing to serve was Bishop Green who left on June 10, 1936. He was called to serve a second time in the Northern States Mission. During his absence, his councilors, C. G. Sanford and Leslie T. Harper carried on the work in the ward.

During the depression years, the crops were poor and prices were low. However, the saints in the Paul Ward faithfully contributed to the building fund and other church needs. Many people were barely above poverty level but they endured the hardships. Perhaps they were blessed because they learned to do without many things and they developed a sense of gratitude for what they did have.

Bishop Green was a kind and spiritual man. He loved the people and they loved him. Upon his release as Bishop, he was called to be a counciłor in the Stake Presidency.

Keith C. Merrill was the fourth bishop in the Paul ward. He served from September 21,1937 to February 13, 1955. Before being called as Bishop he had served in many capacities in the church. In the Young Mens Mutual presidency at the same time as his wife, Grace, served as president of the young Womens Mutual in the ward. In this capacity they served for over 10 years. At the same time Bishop Merrill was scoutmaster for many, many years---the only scout troup in Paul. He also served as Stake Sunday School Superintendent and in the Stake High Council.

During his tenure as Bishop a very ambitious remodeling project took place. From a single room chapel with basement to the building that was used for many years by both the Paul 1st and 2nd wards before the current Stake center was constructed. This building now sits on the corner by the stop light on the highway. The building was started Oct. 1951 and dedicated by Joseph Fielding Smith who later became president of the Church. The building took less than a year to be remodeled and was a great addition to the ward. Also during the period he was bishop the ward purchased an 80 farm four miles west of Paul. This was known as the welfare farm. It also took care of most of the operating budget of the ward. This farm was operated by the ward until 1960 when all the ward farms were sold and the current Stake welfare farm was purchased.

After being released as Bishop in 1955 he served as president of the Minidoka Stake High Priests Quorum. This was at a time when the High Priests had a seperate presidency than the Stake Presidency. After about seven years in this position, he served in several ward positions. In 1972 he made out the Paul Idaho Stake financial reports until 1982. During the winter months for 16 years, he and his wife did temple work at the Mesa, Arizona Temple. He was a dedicated servant of the Lord all his life.

Bishop Lee W. Merrill

Highlights of my term as Bishop of the Paul Ward from Feb. 1955 to March, 1961

Here I was, serving as Minidoka Stake Sunday School Superintendent, where we presided over Wards from Acequia to the Hunt Relocation Project, north of Eden. Pres. Davis Green had asked me to stop by his home on the way back from a visit to Hunt and I was informed that I had been selected as Bishop of the Paul Ward to replace my father, who had served for some 18 years. Our old building had been remodeled and dedicated about a year and a half before and the Northside Pumping project had been opened up and people were moving into tents, tarpaper shacks, etc. I selected as counselors Blaine Harper and Gordon Stolworthy and asked William D. Barclay to continue as Ward Clerk. As continued drawings were held and more people started coming in, we found that it took several nights a week to travel north to find and visit with people. The community was holding a dinner and information meeting at the Paul School for each group following the drawings for Homestead units and as you would expect, our Ward spearheaded the dinner and program. We had some choice people come into our Ward and over the years, we grew from some 385 to nearly 900 members. The roads left much to be desired and we had families clear out to Kimama. I remember particularly the faithfulness of the Relief Society in doing their Visiting Teaching. Erma Johnson was Relief Society President and her husband, Bill would take her and Mary, who served as her first counselor out to make those far out visits. He would go as far as the car could make it and then walk them in to make the visits. When they were through, he would ask if the Home Teachers had been there yet and if not, he would go ahead and give the Home Teaching lesson as well.

One of our old faithful members was Hyrum Mertlich who, to finance his farming efforts, ran a bakery up next to the Foodland Market in Rupert. He would get up and start his baking at 3:00 and would then leave Eva to run the business while he went home to do the farm work. He was then President of the Mutual and when somebody would ask if he could take on another little assignment, Eva would say, "He'd just as well. From midnight until 3:00 he just lays there and sleeps."

We also had our welfare farm out at the West end of the project where Daryl Serr now farms and we had some good times going out to thin beets, pick potatoes, or whatever.

One of the highlights was our Scout and Explorer program. Lenn Garner was Explorer leader and Veral Loveland was Scoutmaster. Lenn trained hunting dogs and to encourage his boys, he furnished a pup to each boy who was interested. He gave group instruction in handling and training the dogs and made the offer to give each boy registration papers for his dog if he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. We had one Court of Honor where ten boys received their Eagle Award and the trophies they had won with their dogs in area Field Trials were displayed along the front of the stage in the Cultural Hall. That record had never been equaled and I don't think it has been since that time. Those boys were the center of our Aaronic Priesthood program and I think nearly all of them have filled missions and are active in the Church. We had some good times with them on outings to the south hills, etc.

Blaine Harper moved to Provo after about two years and John W. Terry was sustained in his place and served until we were released in 1961.

Following our release, I was called to head up the Adult Aaronic program and served there until I was called on a Stake Mission for approx. two years. I was then called to be High Priest group leader and served there until I was called by Bishop Bailey to be Ward Teacher Development Leader. During these tours of duty I had the opportunity of teaching the Gospel Doctrine Class for a time.

In 1972 when the Minidoka Stake was divided, I was called into the High Council of the Minidoka West Stake which later became the Paul, Idaho, Stake. I had various assignments there, being assigned to quorums, Wards, and also served as Stake Auditor, which at the time was done quarterly. When we were transferred to the Paul Third Ward, I was again called to be High Priest Group Leader, back in the old building and then to the new Third-Fourth Ward building. I was called to be Stake Purchasing Representative when the Heyburn Wards were transferred to the Rupert West Stake and am still serving there. I was also called to be the Regional Cannery Inspector. Back in the Paul First Ward again, I was called to be the High Priest Group Instructor and am still involved in that choice assignment. Mary and I were called to work as officiators in the Boise Temple and started on April 1, 1987 and we are still enjoying working togetner in this assignment. I am also again serving as Stake Auditor.

We love the gospel and appreciate the opportunities of service which have come to us. We know that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world, that Joseph Smith is the prophet through whom the Gospel was restored and that Ezra Taft Benson is the Lord's prophet on earth today. We enjoy the Paul First Ward and express our love and support for the Lord's servants now and always.

PAUL WARD 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 3, 1990
JAY S. MAXWELL

I MOVED MY FAMILY TO PAUL, IDAHO IN FEBRUARY 1958 TO OPEN THE NEW "PAUL DRUG STORE" IN PAUL AND BOUGHT A HOME FROM JACK C. MERRILL, JUST SOUTH OF TOWN IN THE PAUL WARD. DAVIS GREEN WAS MINIDOKA STAKE PRESIDENT AND LEE W. MERRILL WAS BISHOP OF THE PAUL WARD.

SOON AFTER I WAS CALLED TO SERVE IN THE MINIDOKA STAKE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND AT THE TIME I WAS CALLED AS BISHOP I WAS SERVING AS MINIDOKA STAKE SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESIDENT. I KEPT SAYING, " I WOULD SURE LIKE A WARD JOB ", BUT I SURELY DIDN'T HAVE THE BISHOPS'S JOB IN MIND.

IN THOSE DAYS ON THE SUNDAY NIGHT OF STAKE CONFERENCE THERE WOULD BE A MUTUAL MEETING. MY WIFE AND I ATTENDED THAT MEETING AND AFTER IT WAS OVER WE JUST SAT THERE FOR SOME REASON, UNTIL ALMOST EVERY ONE HAD LEFT. ALL AT ONCE JAY W. MERRILL, COUNCILOR TO PRESIDENT RODNEY HANSEN HURRIED IN AND SAID, " I AM SURE GLAD YOU ARE STILL HERE, PRESIDENT HANSEN NEEDS TO TALK TO YOU." WE WENT WITH HIM INTO THE OFFICE AND PRESIDENT HANSEN HANDED ME A LETTER FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY CALLING ME AS BISHOP OF THE PAUL WARD.

I WAS CALLED TO FILL THE POSITION OF A GOOD BISHOP, LEE W. MERRILL, WHOSE SHOES WERE HARD TO FILL. MY COUNSILORS WERE J. REED CRYSTAL AND RICHARD FINLINSON AND THEY WERE GOOD ONES.

WE HAD ABOUT 900 MEMBERS IN OUR WARD AT THAT TIME AND AS YOU KNOW THAT IS A LARGE WARD. I HAD BEEN BISHOP ABOUT ONE YEAR WHEN THEY CHANGED THE WARD BOUNDARIES IN THE STAKE AND MADE 12 WARDS WHERE THERE HAD BEEN ONLY NINE AND WE ENDED UP WITH ABOUT 400 MEMBERS. THEY MADE THE PAUL 2ND WARD NORTH OF THE RAILROAD TRACKS AND THE PAUL 1ST WARD, SOUTH OF THE TRACKS, TAKING IN PART OF HEYBURN. THERE WERE MORE MEMBERS IN MY WARD THAT I DIDN,T KNOW, THAN I KNEW AT THAT TIME. IN THE DIVISION I LOST BOTH COUSELORS AND MANY OTHER WARD LEADERS, SO I CHOSE LENN GARNER OF PAUL, AND LOUIS STIMPSON FROM HEYBURN AND THEY WERE EXCELLENT COUNSELORS AND GOOD MEN.

THE HEYBURN PEOPLE DIDN'T MUCH WANT TO COME TO PAUL. FOR ALL THOSE YEARS BEFORE, PAUL SCHOOL AND HEYBURN SCHOOLS HAD BEEN BITTER RIVALS IN ALL KINDS OF ACTIVITIES. IT TOOK SOME GETTING USED TO BUT SOON EVERYTHING WAS GOING SMOOTHLY.

WHEN MY COUNSELOR LOUIS STIMPSON'S JOB TOOK HIM OUT OF TOWN SO MUCH, HE FELT HE NEEDED TO BE RELEASED, THEN SEMINARY TEACHER ARTHUR BAILEY SERVED AS COUSELOR UNTIL I WAS RELEASED.

THERE ARE MANY RESPONSIBILITIES BEING A BISHOP, BUT THERE IS NO OTHER CALLING IN A WARD WHERE YOU FEEL AS CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE. I ENJOYED MY TIME AS BISHOP OF THE PAUL WARD AND SERVED WITH MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE AS COUSELORS, CLERKS, AUXILIARY LEADERS AND TEACHERS.

BECAUSE I HAD THE DRUG STORE IN PAUL IT MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO SEE THE PEOPLE MORE OFTEN. THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A LOT OF WONDERFUL PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. EVEN MANY GREAT NON-MEMBERS, THAT WE NEED TO SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH.

TWO PROBLEMS COME TO MIND AT THIS TIME : NUMBER ONE. DURING

OUR MEETINGS LARGE TRUCKS WOULD STOP AND START AT THE STOP SIGN RIGHT BY THE WINDOWS AND WHEN THEY WOULD START UP THEY WOULD MAKE A TERRIBLE NOISE, SHIFTING GEARS SO WE COULD'NT HEAR.

NUMBER TWO. EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE SOMEONES C.B. RADIO BROADCAST WOULD COME IN OVER OUR SPEAKERS RIGHT DURING OUR MEETINGS.

IT HAS REALLY PLEASED ME TO SEE THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THOSE YEARS PROGRESS AND MANY OF THEM ARE LEADERS TODAY.

AFTER MY RELEASE FROM BISHOP I WAS ON THE HIGH COUNCIL FOR ABOUT 2 YEARS, THEN WHEN THE MINIDOLA STAKE WAS DIVIDED I WAS CALLED TO SERVE IN THE STAKE PRESIDENCY OF THE PAUL IDAHO STAKE WITH KEITH C. MERRILL JR. PRESIDENT, AND HAROLD R. HURST, FOR 10 YEARS.

WHEN MY WIFE AND I SOLD OUR DRUG STORE IN 1983 WE WERE CALLED ON A MISSION TO THE CONNECTICUT HARTFORD MISSION FOR 18 MONTHS, WHICH WE REALLY ENJOYED. SINCE THEN I HAVE TAUGHT A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, SERVED IN THE PAUL IDAHO STAKE MISSION PRESIDENCY, AND SERVED AS AN ORDINANCE WORKER IN THE BOISE IDAHO TEMPLE FOR THE PAST 17 MONTHS. NOW LOA AND I ARE CALLED TO SERVE IN THE DALLAS TEXAS TEMPLE AS ORDINACE WORKERS BEGINNING OCTOBER 3RD. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE LORD IN THIS NEW CALLING.

Bishop Arthur A. Bailey

SOME MILESTONES AND EVENTS I REMEMBER DURING THE TIME I SERVED AS BISHOP OF THE PAUL FIRST WARD

In February of 1968, I was called as Bishop of the Paul first ward. I had served as Counselor to Bp. Maxwell for six months prior to that time. At the beginning, my Counselors were Larry Harper and Gary Ward. After eight months the Wards moved to Hyrum, Utah and Ernie Straubhaar became the Counselor in his place. During the time the three of us were serving Pres. McKay died. He had been the Pres. of the church for 20 years. He was replaced by Pres. Joseph Fielding Smith who was only Pres. for a short time, I think about a year and a half, before he died. While Pres. Smith was in office, Don Handy was called as a Counselor in the Bishopric to replace Bro. Straubhaar. Not long after this Pres. Smith passed away, and Harold B. Lee became the Pres. He also died after about a year and a half and was succeeded by Pres. Spencer W. Kimball. These are some milestones in the church that I remember during the time I was Bishop. It looks like our time of service must have been pretty hard on church Presidents. Dean Young, Dennis Orton, Richard Williams, Lester Perry, and Rick Locander served as Clerks in the Bishopric. We had the opportunity to serve during the administrations of four Presidents of the church. That sounds like a long time, doesn't it?

When I was made Bp. the ward was in the Minidoka stake and Rodney Hansen was the pres. Later, I believe in 1973?, it was divided into the Paul and the Rupert stakes and Keith Merrill became the stake president.

One of the most outstanding things that occurred while we served as the Bishopric was how we raised the money for the new building. I still marvel at how we raised the $ 120,000 in so short a time. I believe it was about eighteen or twenty months that it took us to raise the money. It was certainly a cooperative effort. Many people participated, both active and inactive, to make it a success. It was marvelous how it all came together. Those "free" suppers put together by John King and Lloyd Merrill, who under the direction of Brother Handy headed up the finance committee, really worked miracles. I also know that there were some miracles worked in the home management, personal finances, and the pocketbooks of many homes and individuals during this time. I'm sure that the sociality and good will generated by these activities helped to promote and to sustain the spirit of giving that it took to achieve so much success in such a short time. I was released in January of 1974 and Larry Harper became the Bishop.

In Aug. of 1975 we moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico. I was the regional director of church education for most of the state of New Mexico for five years, and also served four years as bishop in the Albuquerque ninth ward. We moved to Orem in 1980 to attend BYU and work on a doctorate degree. I completed the requirements for my Ph.D in Dec. of 1989, and I am still teaching at BYU in the religion department. We live in North Orem. When we have the opportunity to see people from the Paul area, either at BYU or at the mall, it is fun to reminisce about the good times we enjoyed while we were here.

Since leaving Paul, Kay has served two terms as Relief Society pres. and is now in the primary. I am on the high

council. Our oldest son Brent served a mission to New Zealand. He is now married to Suzee Williams and they have one child, a boy. They live in Lubbock Texas, where he is in law school. Our oldest daughter, Karen works in SLC for 3M Corp. She commutes everyday, so she still lives at home. Our second son, Craig returned home from his mission to Colorado in April of 1990. He is working part time for an electrical contractor and attending Utah Valley Community College full time. Our second and last daughter, Jill is a senior at Mountain View High School in Orem. We cherish the good friends we have in Paul and remember our years here with fond memories of how well we were treated by all the good people in the area.

ARTHUR A. BAILEY

LARRY FREEMAN HARPER
BISHOP PAUL FIRST WARD
JANUARY 20, 1974 TO JUNE 10, 1979

I HAVE LIVED IN THE PAUL WARD ALL MY LIFE, SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW SHOCKED EVERYONE, INCLUDING MYSELF, WAS WHEN I WAS CALLED AS BISHOP. MANY OF THE PAUL WARD MEMBERS HAD WATCHED ME GROW UP AND SEEN MY FOOLISH PRANKS AND MISTAKES AND HAD BEEN MY LEADERS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL, PRIMARY AND M.I.A. I APPRECIATE THE LOVE AND SUPPORT THEY GAVE ME AND I HAVE SINCE CONDUCTED FUNERALS FOR MANY OF THE OLDER MEMBERS WHO KNEW MY PARENTS.

I SERVED AS A COUNSELOR TO BISHOP ARTHUR BAILEY FOR SEVEN YEARS AND HAD RECEIVED GOOD TRAINING AND HE WAS A GOOD EXAMPLE AS A BISHOP FOR ME. I WAS SET APART AS BISHOP ON JANUARY 20, 1974 BY HENRY D. TAYLOR. MY COUNSELORS WERE BROTHER DONALD HANDY AND BROTHER DEVERE BURTON. THEY WERE VERY CAPABLE AND DEPENDABLE AND WERE DEDICATED TO THE PAUL FIRST WARD. I RELIED ALOT ON THEIR GOOD JUDGEMENT AND WISDOM. I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY I HAD TO SERVE WITH THEM AND THE BLESSINGS I RECEIVED THROUGH OUR ASSOCIATION.

SHORTLY BEFORE I WAS CALLED AS BISHOP, IT WAS DECIDED THAT A NEW STAKE CENTER WOULD BE BUILT. THE PAUL FIRST WARD ACTED AS THE AGENT WARD DURING THIS TIME AND I WAS ABLE TO GO TO SALT LAKE CITY TO HELP CHOOSE AND DECIDE THE PLANS FOR THE BUILDING. THE WARD ASSESSMENT WAS RAISED TO HELP FINANCE THE BUILDING AND WE RAISED $97,000. WE WERE SUPPORTED EXTREMELY WELL DURING THIS TIME BY THE WARD MEMBERS AND THE MONIES WERE RAISED THROUGH PLEDGES AND A FEW WARD DINNERS. ALL THE TIME THAT I WAS BISHOP THE WARD ALWAYS MET THEIR STAKE ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ON TIME. WE ALWAYS HAD A LITTLE IN RESERVE.

BEING THE AGENT WARD DURING THE BUILDING OF THE STAKE CENTER, THERE WERE LOTS OF RECORD KEEPING AND THE MONIES TO BE BALANCED. I APPRECIATE THE CLERKS FOR THEIR TIME AND DEDICATION.

THE STAKE ANXIOUSLY WAITED FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW BUILDING. WE ALL KNEW THAT THE WARD BOUNDARIES WOULD BE CHANGED. MANY OF THE ORIGINAL PAUL FIRST WARD MEMBERS WERE CHANGED TO OTHER WARDS. AT THAT TIME, I WAS BUILDING A NEW HOUSE ACROSS THE ROAD FROM THE OLD HOUSE. AFTER THE CHANGE WAS MADE, VER RONA AND I HAD A PRIVATE JOKE THAT THEY COULDN'T DEDICATE THE NEW STAKE CENTER UNTIL AFTER WE MOVED, OR I WOULD HAVE BEEN CHANGED INTO THE EMERSON WARD. WE MOVED MAY 23 AND THE STAKE CENTER WAS DEDICATED ON JUNE 15.

I KNOW THAT THE WARD WAS BLESSED AND MANY SACRAFICES WERE MADE. DURING THIS TIME THE WARD MEMBERS WERE ALSO ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH MISSIONARY FUND. THE WARD MEMBERS RESPONDED AND OFTEN OUR WARD CONTRIBUTION TOTALED MORE THAN THE REST OF THE STAKE. WE ALSO CONSISTENTLY LED THE STAKE IN TEMPLE ATTENDANCE, I FEEL THIS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE SPIRTUALITY OF THE WARD.

I RECEIVED MANY SPECIAL BLESSINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES WHILE I SERVED AS BISHOP. ESPECIALLY SPIRITUAL WAS THE BLESSING OF ATTENDING GENERAL CONFERENCE. I WAS ALSO ABLE TO CALL LAYNE, KEVIN AND CLINT TO SERVE MISSIONS. DURING THE INTERVIEWS WITH THE YOUNG DEACONS, I WOULD FILL OUT THEIR MISSIONARY FORMS AND WOULD REVIEW THEIR REQUIREMENTS ANNUALLY WITH THEM. WE HAD MANY SERVE MISSIONS DURING THAT TIME. I WAS ALSO BLESSED TO KNOW AND REMEMBER EACH YOUNG PERSON IN THE WARD BY FIRST NAME. I HAVE SINCE LOST THAT ABILITY. THE PAUL FIRST WARD HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BLESSED WITH SPECIAL YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN CONTRIBUTING TO THAT OF COURSE ARE THE GOOD STALWART PARENTS AND MEMBERS. IT WAS MY PRIVILEDGE TO SERVE AS BISHOP AND I EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT THE WARD MEMBERS GAVE ME.

BISHOP DELYLE BENNETT

June 10th, 1979 I was called to be Bishop of the Paul First Ward, with Lenn Garner as 1st counselor and Dee Wheeler as 2nd counselor.

I so much appreciated those people who worked directly with us. During this time we were able to see several people baptized into the Church and several people take out their endowments and have their families sealed to them.

The last week of December, 1981, all the ward boundaries in the stake were realigned. With this change I became part of the Paul Third Ward and was made bishop, with Lenn Garner as 1st counselor and Ray Patterson as 2nd counselor.

The greatest blessings come to those who serve the Lord and through these years I was greatly blessed. One of those great blessings was to see the growth that comes to people as they participate in church callings.

My activity in the church since being released as bishop has been that of a teacher. Instructor of the High Priest group, Gospel Essentials Sunday School class and Sunday School course 17. I also served for a short time as Scout Master and have served on the Scout committee of the ward.

My testimony is still strong and I will serve where the Lord needs me.

M. GENE HANSEN

BISHOP
PAUL 1ST WARD
DEC. 1981 - AUG. 1982

On December 27, 1981 the Paul Idaho Stake created a new ward. There were 7 wards and each was changed and an 8th ward was created. Members from Paul 1st, Paul 2nd, Heyburn and Emerson wards were brought together to form the Paul 1st Ward and I was called to be the Bishop. I was presently serving as the Bishop of the Emerson 1st Ward.

Brother Dee Ray Wheeler and Brother Leonard S. Peterson were called to serve as my counselors and Brother William Neibaur was the Ward Clerk with Brother Nolan Thompson as the Executive Sec.

During the first week as Bishop, my counselors and I spent almost all week organizing the ward. We had a Bishopric and Clerks and that was all that had been sustained. During the first hours of serving we felt the hand of the Lord as he directed us in calling the members to positions that he wanted them to serve in. It was a real blessing to feel the spirit of the Lord direct us and also to see how he touched the members and how they all responded with a yes answer. During the 1st week we called 74 members to positions and all but one accepted their call. I have attached a complete list of ward business conducted on the 1st Sunday after we were organized.

We were again busy the second week as all had to be set apart and instructions needed to be given.

I enjoyed very much serving as the Bishop. I had a love for the people that has stayed with me through the years. I appreciated the youth and how much they wanted to live as they should and work towards the goals that they had set. Serving has Bishop of the Paul 1st Ward was one of the greatest experiences of my service to my Father in Heaven.

It wasn't long before Stake Conference came around. In June of 1982 the Stake Presidency was changed and again a new call came to me. Elder G. Homer Durhum called me to serve has the 2nd counselor to Pres. John A. Stevenson in the Stake Presidency. As I was interviewed by Elder Durham I expressed my concerns for some situations that were existing in the Ward and I told him that I didn't think it was proper to leave these members in the middle of everything. Much to my surprise he agreed with me. As he later talked with Pres. Stevenson he told him in my presence, that I would except the call to serve, but that I should not be released as Bishop until I had some problems cleared up. That when I had them cleared up, I would tell Pres. Stevenson and then and only then could we proceed with calling a new Bishop.

I served about two months as a member of the Stake Presidency and as Bishop. This was a very busy time for me, but I was so grateful to have the time and to be able to work with the members and finish up the problems.

It was also a very special blessing in my life to be able to fast and pray as a member of the Stake Presidency for a confirmation of who should serve as the new Bishop of the Paul 1st Ward. It is not very often that a Bishop has the blessing of feeling the spirit direct who should be his replacement. There was no doubt in my mind that Jay W. Merrill should be the next Bishop of the Paul 1st Ward. I think that the hardest thing about being released as bishop was the feeling of leaving my great counselors and clerks and all the members that I loved so much.

M. Glen Hansen

BISHOP JAY W. MERRILL

August 8, 1982 - February 14, 1988

Jay W. Merrill served as Bishop of the Paul First Ward from August 8, 1982, until February 14, 1988. Serving as his counselors during that time were Leonard Peterson, Michael Barclay, Nolan Thompson, and Dennis Orton. Nolan Thompson, Charles Wilcher and Terry Jones each served as Executive Secretary. William Neibaur was Ward Clerk and the following brethren served as Assistant Ward Clerks: Marvin McBride, Michael Toner, Lyle Davids, Victor Braegger, Donald Sengbusch, Marvin Bagley, and Bill Harmon.

In August 1983 our Explorer Post #50 won the basketball championship for the Snake River Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, and thereby earned the right to represent the Council at the National Explorer Olympics in Columbus, Ohio. There our team, with Terry Jones as coach, did extremely well and won 2nd place in the National Explorer Olympics Basketball Championship. In addition, John Kloepfer and Mike Landrum took 1st Place in Canoeing and Marschell Wayment took 3rd place in Archery. In March, 1987, our Explorer Post again won the Snake River Area Council Basketball Championship, but unfortunately, there was no National Explorer Olympics held that year.

In June 1984, the boundaries were realigned in both the Rupert and the Paul Idaho Stakes, creating the Rupert West Stake. In March 1985 several ward boundaries were changed in the Paul Idaho Stake. This resulted in more than 50 families being transferred out of the Paul 1st Ward into the Paul 3rd & 4th Wards. Approximately half that number of families were transferred into the Paul 1st Ward. We had a very busy week following that memorable Sunday, calling about 50 members to positions that were left vacant with the boundary change. They were all sustained the following Sunday.

When President Benson urged church members to read the Book of Mormon, the Bishopric challenged all Paul Ward members to read the Book of Mormon between April and October Conference, 1986. A number of families and individuals accepted the challenge and completed reading the Book of Mormon during the assigned period. A letter was sent to President Benson with the signatures of those who had fulfilled the challenge and who acknowledged that their lives had been greatly enriched.

A Reverence program was commenced during this time in an attempt to improve reverence and the spiritual tone of all our meetings, and especially Sacrament Meeting. The results of this effort were gratifying. We observed all members, including children, showing more concern for the chapel and our Sacrament meeting reverence improved a great deal.

While Bishop Merrill served as Bishop, 16 Ward members were called on missions. They served in various parts of the United States, and in Germany, Ireland, Korea, Taiwan, France, and Ecuador. Ten young men earned their Eagle Scout Award, and several young women earned the Young Womanhood Award. There were many deaths in the ward and Bishop Merrill officiated at 20 funerals.

Paul First Ward is a special ward filled with wonderful people who radiate a love for the gospel and for the Lord. They love their neighbors and many lives have been blessed through the selfless service of our ward members. It was a privilege, an honor, and a great blessing to serve as Bishop to these choice people.

Bishop Jay W. Merrill

Bishop Richard G. Williams
14 February 1988 to present (22 Sept 1990)

For 3 1/2 years prior to being called as Bishop of the Paul First Ward, I served as ward High Priest group leader, and for 15 years prior to that as a ward and then stake clerk. This many years serving that closely with bishops should have prepared me for the duties of a Bishop. It didn't. There is nothing in the responsibilities of a clerk, even sitting in council with the bishops of the stake every month and hearing the problems and solutions they discuss with the stake president, that soaks in enough to prepare one for becoming a bishop.

On February 14, 1988 I was sustained as bishop with William G. Neibaur as 1st counselor and Randy Munk as 2nd counselor. In June of that year, Bro. Munk and his family moved to American Falls and Bro. Randy Jones replaced him as 2nd counselor.

And so I assumed my responsibilities willingly, apprehensively and very ignorantly. The time has been enjoyable. I especially like the opportunity of visiting with the ward members as often as possible, in meetings and in interviews. Maybe it's because of the friendliness of the Paul First Ward. Everyone with their smiling faces and friendly welcomes.

Also, interviewing the youth and young people. They emulate the attitudes of their parents, and the eagerness with which they meet me makes me feel younger and more eager to continue. Our youth are our greatest resource and if we can live our lives to be a proud example for them to follow and to lovingly teach them the truths of the gospel, then the greatness that can be theirs will be marvelous for us to behold. They can be greater than we are, but only if we are willing to sacrifice our time and energy towards teaching them what their responsibilities are.

There have been no ward or stake boundary changes nor any buildings built or contemplated in the stake since I have been bishop. The Church did make one announcement that has changed not only the responsibilities of a bishop, but has effected every member of the church.

In December 1989, the First Presidency announced that, beginning January 1, 1990 the members of the church would no longer be required to donate budget for the running of the wards. Instead, budget would be paid back to the wards quarterly from the tithing funds of the Church, based on the average ward attendance at Sacrament Services. This has made for a lot of changes in the way some of the programs are run, especially those that require very much money. The leaders in the ward are still experimenting and trying new ways to administer some programs. It has been a unique experience for all, but each time we do it the way the Church has asked us, we see that it goes well and are fortified in our efforts to do it all right.

I pray that the remainder of the time I spend as bishop of the Paul First Ward will be as enjoyable and rewarding as the past and that we will all continue to grow and learn in the right ways.

Richard G. Williams

From the Memoirs of my
Mother, Eunice Waymont Harmon